



Enhanced Airworthiness Program for Airplane Systems (EAPAS) Status

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EAPAS Implementation Plan

The EAPAS is designed to enhance current airplane systems airworthiness programs at operator facilities, repair stations, and manufacturing plants based on data-driven initiatives developed under the Aging Transport Non-Structural Systems Plan.



Enhancement Categories

The EAPAS implementation plan is organized into six major categories covering design, certification and maintenance of transport airplanes:

- Training
- Maintenance
- Design
- Research and Development
- Wire Reporting
- Information Sharing and Outreach



EAPAS Initiatives

- Near-Term
 - Raise awareness about aging system issues
 - Enhancements/changes in training and maintenance programs
 - Training for FAA inspectors, engineers, and designees
 - Tasks to be complete by late 2001

- Longer-Term
 - Institutionalize management of aging systems
 - Changes in inspections and Instructions for Continued Airworthiness
 - Changes to regulations (FARs) for improvements in certification and maintenance
 - Tasks are planned to be complete by mid-2004



EAPAS Status

- The EAPAS implementation plan was approved and published August 2001; updated October 2002.
<http://www.faa.gov/apa/eapas.doc>
- The EAPAS Near-Term actions have been successfully accomplished. Examples are:
 - Wiring Installation Drawings Policy
 - 1st annual FAA Engineers/Inspectors workshop: Nov. 5-8, 2001
2nd annual workshop scheduled for Nov. 5-7, 2002
 - Aircraft Wiring Practices: Training + Job Aid on internet
Majority of the FAA Engineers and Inspectors have completed the training.
Video/Self-study materials: 1-580-234-2845 or 1-800-443-3827, course No. 25827; <http://www.academy.jccbi.gov/AIRDL/wiringcourse>



EAPAS Status

- FAA has issued a handbook information bulletin providing an overview of aging system activities and EAPAS plans to PMIs.
- 29 model-specific ADs have been issued based on follow-up investigation to ATSRAC recommendations.
- FAA, in addition to an Information bulletin for PMIs, has sent a letter to over 2,000 operators, modifiers, and repair stations (and international authorities) outlining specific cautionary notes which should be included in maintenance and installation documents concerning wire contamination.
- Intrusive Inspection Recommendation Resolution is near completion (detailed presentation later).



EAPAS Status

- Long-Term Action are being successfully accomplished:
 - Electrical R&D Projects (detailed presentation later).
 - Mechanical Systems R&D well underway; contract in place for the Control System study.
 - EAPAS Rulemaking:
 - EAPAS Rulemaking team has been organized
 - Rule in draft process based on the ATSRAC report received in August 2002.
 - Draft Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be complete Jan. 2003
 - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be published September 2003